

FALL 2020

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Occupational wage data: jobs.utah.gov/wi

Employer Advisor

LOOKING BACK: SUCCESSFUL ONLINE FILING

Online filing is a powerful tool for employers. It is easy to use, more secure than mailing paper reports, saves your data for the next quarterly report, displays your rates, calculates excess wages and contribution due, and is available to view 24/7. You can file online today!.

Our staff met the high demand of claims with diligence and dedication. Their efforts stand out nationally as Utah was among the first states to provide many of the new federal programs supplementing unemployment benefits through the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act. An overview of these new programs is included below.

LOOKING FORWARD: ONLINE PAYMENTS

As part of our ongoing efforts to reduce paper processing and keep workers safe, effective Oct. 1, 2020, all unemployment insurance tax payments must be made online. Payments can be made <u>online via Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT)</u>.

EFT is an easy, secure and efficient way to transfer money online. There are no fees to use EFT and you can always ensure your payment is received timely — no more checks lost in the mail! We provide step instructions on how to submit your payments using EFT to help make your job easier.





2021 UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE TAX RATES

CONTRIBUTORY EMPLOYERS

All unemployment insurance claim benefit costs attributable to COVID-19 between March 8, 2020, and Aug. 15, 2020, were charged to social costs, rather than directly to any individual employer. Currently, social costs are .001, or \$1 for every \$1,000 of wages paid.

Your unemployment insurance tax rate for 2021 will include all benefit costs from July 1, 2019, through June 30, 2020, and three prior fiscal years.

The Utah Legislature locked the social cost for 2021 at .002. This means unemployment insurance tax increases for employers will be limited. This action may impact the future solvency of the trust fund, which is used to pay benefits.

Please <u>review the Employer Handbook</u> for more information about social costs and rate calculations.

If you have any questions, please contact an unemployment insurance representative using our online 'Live Chat' feature.

REIMBURSABLE EMPLOYERS

The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act of 2020 (CARES Act) provides emergency funds to help mitigate economic impacts of COVID-19 on reimbursable employers. The CARES Act originally required full payment before the bill could be reduced by up to 50%. The reduction was issued as a credit on the following month's bill.

This credit applies to unemployment benefits paid to your former or furloughed employees from March 21, 2020, through Dec. 26, 2020.

On Aug. 3, 2020, President Trump signed into law the Protecting Nonprofits Act. For all weeks of unemployment after Aug. 3, 2020, the monthly bill is reduced by 50% before posting to the employers account.

A FINAL WORD: Please visit jobs.utah.gov/covid19/index. html for the latest updates to unemployment frequently asked questions, and child care and other resources that may benefit you and your employees.



